

IMMEDIATE

JSK

MEMORANDUM FOR:



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FROM:

, O/DCI

Attached is the memo to be sent to SecState in California with the PDB tomorrow. Dick suggests that you mention memo is being sent at INR's request.



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Date 31 July 1984

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Central Intelligence Agency

NIC 04201-84/1

Washington, D.C. 20505

27 July 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of State

SUBJECT: A Reordering of Soviet Military Priorities

1. Thank you for sending me the thought provoking analysis on Ogarkov's views of current and emergent Soviet military priorities.
2. My staff has prepared the attached comments that I hope you will find useful. In brief,
 - We believe that since about the mid-70s Ogarkov and the Soviet military in general have been paying greater attention to conventional capabilities. But we do not believe that Ogarkov is now arguing this should be done at the expense of nuclear capabilities.
 - Consequently we do not believe there are major differences of opinion in the Soviet high command on the desirability of capping the U.S. strategic buildup on this issue.
 - The Soviets are not "on the verge of launching conventional force modernization programs." Rather they launched these programs some time ago.
 - As nice as it would be for us to deter these on-going Soviet nuclear and conventional modernization efforts, we do not believe we can do so in the short term, this despite the USSR's obvious economic difficulties.

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